



Customer No.: 26308

Patent

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Gaiser et al. Docket No.: 9222.17412-CIP 2
Serial No.: 10/017,906 Examiner: L. Thanh
Filed: 14 December 2001 Group Art Unit: 3763
Title: Systems and Methods Employing a Guidewire for Positioning and Stabilizing External Instruments Deployed within the Body

AMENDMENT B
SUBMITTED WITH A REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

The Examiner's attention is directed to the Information Disclosure Statement that accompanies this Amendment.

This Amendment responds to the Office Action mailed February 9, 2005, which was designated a Final Action.

An automatic two month extension of time to respond, up to and including July 9, 2005, is respectfully requested. A Request for Continued Examination has been filed to respond to the Office Action and advance prosecution. The requisite fee accompanies this Amendment.